

ORDER NO. 6382

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners:

Michael Kubayanda, Chairman;
Ann C. Fisher, Vice Chairman;
Mark Acton;
Ashley E. Poling; and
Robert G. Taub

Costing Treatment of
Retirement Debt Relief

Docket No. RM2023-1

Periodic Reporting
(NPPC et al. Proposal One)

Docket No. RM2023-3

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

(Issued December 21, 2022)

On December 9, 2022, the Commission issued Order No. 6363, which, in relevant part, identified the established methodology pertaining to the treatment of normal costs of retiree health benefits.¹ The Commission stated that should any party “desire the Commission rely on a different analytical principle with regard to the amortization and normal cost payments . . . , [it] may petition the Commission for a change pursuant to 39 C.F.R. part 3050.” Order No. 6363 at 11. The Commission noted that for such a petition to be considered for fiscal year (FY) 2022 purposes, the

¹ Docket No. RM2023-1, Order Granting Petition, In Part, for Reconsideration, December 9, 2022, at 10 (Order No. 6363).

petition must be filed by December 21, 2022, and that the Commission would provide 2 weeks for comment. *Id.* at 11, n.17.

On December 19, 2022, the National Postal Policy Council, the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, the American Catalog Mailers Association, the Association for Postal Commerce, the Major Mailers Association, the National Association of Presort Mailers, and N/MA – The News/Media Alliance (Mailers) filed a motion requesting reconsideration of Order No. 6363, or in the alternative, adoption of a petition to change the analytical principle applied to FY 2022 retiree health benefit normal costs.²

On December 20, 2022, the Postal Service filed a motion requesting that the Commission set a deadline of no less than 2 weeks for responses to the Mailers' Motion and Petition.³ It notes that the motion for reconsideration portion of the Mailers' Motion and Petition would appear to have a 7-day response deadline pursuant to the Commission rules, which is shorter than the period envisioned in Order No. 6363 for responses to petitions. Postal Service's Motion at 1-2. The Postal Service seeks a unified deadline for responding to all aspects of the Mailers' Motion and Petition. *Id.* at 2. The Postal Service asserts that it consulted with representatives of the Mailers, who did not object to the requested extension. *Id.*

The Commission grants the Postal Service's Motion. The requested extension will not cause significant delay. See 39 C.F.R. § 3010.162(c). Further, the requested extension, if provided to all participants, will not have a potential adverse impact on other participants and is unopposed by the Mailers. See *id.*; Postal Service's Motion

² Docket Nos. RM2023-1 and RM2023-3, Motion for Reconsideration or, in the Alternative, Petition to Initiate a Proceeding Regarding the Appropriate Analytical Principle for Retiree Health Benefit Normal Costs, December 19, 2022 (Mailers' Motion and Petition). The Commission notes that the Mailers initially designed their petition as Proposal Eight. Consistent with past practice, the Commission is redesignating the petition as NPPC et al. Proposal One to distinguish it from proposals initiated by the Postal Service. The change is reflected in the caption for Docket No. RM2023-3.

³ Docket Nos. RM2023-1 and RM2023-3, Motion of the United States Postal Service for Leave to File Consolidated or Concurrent Responses to Mailers' December 19th Filing, December 20, 2022 (Postal Service's Motion).

at 2. Consequently, the Postal Service's Motion is granted. Any party filing a response to the Mailers' Motion and Petition must do so no later than January 4, 2023.

It is ordered:

1. The Motion of the United States Postal Service for Leave to File Consolidated or Concurrent Responses to Mailers' December 19th Filing, filed December 20, 2022, is granted.
2. Responses to the Mailers' Motion and Petition must be filed no later than January 4, 2023.

By the Commission.

Erica A. Barker
Secretary